

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 H-01 SS-15
 NSC-05 /052 W

----- 067892 /41

R 201244Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 3989
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO EGYPT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA
AMEMBASSY ROME ITALY

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ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS : EAIR, SA, BA
SUBJECT : PAN AM'S BAHRAIN FLIGHT AS LEVER IN SAUDI BILATERALS

REF : JIDDA 8116

1. AS NOTED REFTEL, PAN AM'S WEEKLY NEW YORK - BAHRAIN FLIGHT IS INDEED DEPENDANT ON SAUDI EASTERN PROVINCE FOR AS MUCH AS ONE THIRD TO ONE HALF ITS PASSENGERS. IN ORDER MAXIMIZE ITS ACCESS TO EASTERN PROVINCE MARKET, PAN AM HAS ARRANGED WITH GULF AIR TO USE VC-10 VICE FOKKER FRIENDSHIP ON GULF AIR CONNECTING WEDNESDAY MORNING DHAHRAN-MANAMA FLIGHT. PAN AM GUARANTEES 70 OF 109 SEATS ON THE VC-10.

2. GULF AIR-PAN AM ARRANGEMENT FOR VC-10 DOES NOT HAVE FORMAL SAG SANCTION, ACCORDING PAN AM AGENT HERE AND, FROM REFTEL, IT APPEARS THAT SUCH SANCTION IS LIKELY TO BECOME LEVER TO MOVE USG IN ITS BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SAG. KEY POINT SEEMS TO BE TIMING. PAN AM-GULF AIR ARRANGEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PAN AM'S
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MANAMA-NEW YORK FLIGHT IS INFORMAL ONE BASED ON GULF AIR'S CLAIM TO SAG THAT, TEMPORARILY, APPROVED EQUIPMENT FOR DHAHRAN MANAMA FLIGHT, THE FRIENDSHIP, IS NOT AVAILABLE. ONE OF GULF AIR'S TWO FRIENDSHIPS IS ON LONG-TERM CHARTER AND OTHER IS DOWN FOR MAJOR MAINTENANCE UNTIL MARCH. PAN AM AGENT CLAIMS THAT TEMPORARY USE OF VC-10 UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES HAS KAMAL

SINDI'S APPROVAL.

3. PAN AM AGENT OF COURSE HOPES THIS PROCEDURE WILL BE FORMAL-
IZED WITH SAG BEFORE A GULF AIR FRIENDSHIP IS AGAIN AVAILABLE.
MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, GULF AIR HAS BEEN USING VC-10 AS AGREED WITH
PAN AM AND PAN AM AGENT APPEARS UNAWARE THAT THERE COULD BE
PROBLEMS BEFORE MARCH 1977.

4. PLEASE KEEP THIS POST ADVISED OF SAG-US CIVAIR DEVELOPMENTS
WHICH WILL HAVE IMPACT HERE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIR SCHEDULES, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANAMA02169
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760466-1243
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761228/aaaaaygl.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 JIDDA 8116
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAN AM'S BAHRAIN FLIGHT AS LEVER IN SAUDI BILATERALS
TAGS: EAIR, SA, BA, PANAM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006